

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

TO THE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL,
OF THE
BARNSTAPLE UNION,
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Barnstaple :

PERCIVAL HARRIS, ELECTRIC PRESS, HIGH STREET.

Bear Street,

February 1st, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural

District Council,

Barnstaple Union.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Medical
Officer's Report for the year 1904.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN R. HARPER, M.O.H.



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ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health, 1904,

On the Rural District of the Barnstaple Union.

PHYSICAL AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The Rural Sanitary District of Barnstaple has an area of 132,059 acres, and consists of 35 Parishes divided into three districts, viz. :—

	Acreage.	Population at last census, 1901.
No. 1—Barnstaple	36,142	6,198
No. 2—Ilfracombe	39,824	6,142
No. 3—Combmartin	56,093	5,352

The population of the whole district at the last census, 1901, numbered 17,692, the number of inhabited houses being 4,077, making the average number of persons per house 4·44.

The Bristol Channel bounds the district north and west, on the east it borders on the County of Somerset, and on the south it is in relation with the Rural Sanitary Districts of Bideford, Torrington and Southmolton. The district throughout is hilly especially in the northern part where the country is extremely rugged. The hills here rise sharply from the sea, in some places to over 1,000 feet. Deep valleys intersect the district in all parts. The population is sparse and almost wholly engaged in agricultural pursuits. On the coast, several seaside villages, Santon, Croyde, Woolacombe, Morthoe and Combmartin are frequented in the summer by visitors and tourists. Many inland villages, Braunton, Kentisbury, Bratton, etc., are made use of in a similar way and have a much increased population in the summer.

Geologically the district is situated mainly on the lower, middle and upper Devonian series, to limited extent only on carboniferous shale and limestones; the junction of the Devonian and carboniferous strata is hidden by detritus and superficial beds. The lower Devonian rocks are seen at the extreme north-east corner of the district, at the Foreland which rises almost perpendicularly from the sea to the height of 689 feet. The carboniferous shales and limestones are found just south of Barnstaple.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION

House accommodation for the labouring classes is on the whole sufficient. There are, however, several houses which have yet to undergo some sanitary improvement in order to make them healthy dwellings. The great difficulty that is experienced throughout the district is that of overcrowding, the result of the occupation of cottages built years ago, which do not conform to the necessities of present day sanitation and legislation. Large families are frequently found occupying cottages with only two bedrooms, the disadvantages of this are obvious and are bound to have a bad affect both morally and physically upon the younger members of these families. Another equally great difficulty is that of the "dirty tenant" of which unfortunately during the year there have been several instances. Some of these have been found occupying modern cottages with all modern improvements, and yet in spite of this from neglect and indifference of the most elementary laws of health these cottages are converted into *foci*, from which disease may originate and spread. The remedy is a frequent inspection of houses of this character. This, however, is an impossibility, as under the existing circumstances your inspectors have not the time necessary to devote to it.

All plans for the erection of new houses are examined by the Surveyor, Mr George Smyth-Richards, who also inspects the houses upon their completion.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Certain of the larger villages of the district have excellent drainage systems.

The drainage systems of Morthoe, Brannnton and Combmartin are modern and discharge themselves directly into the sea.

The smaller villages and hamlets make use of cesspits for the disposal of sewage and house refuse.

Instow.—Within the last few years two new sewers have been laid down, starting from each end of the village and having a common outfall at the pier. The Fremington side of the village is practically all connected with the sewer, but it appears that several of the inhabitants of the other end of the village have not yet complied with the Council's order to connect.

Woolacombe.—This village is exceedingly well drained and has the advantage of having a natural fall. The main sewer lies at the bottom of the village and extends from the Hotel across the sea front to the outfall a distance of about half-a-mile where it empties itself at low water. Connected with this are three branches which drain the higher portions of the village.

The system is well flushed by means of a flushing chamber.

Westleigh.—The drainage of this village has been recently reported upon by Mr. Thorne. He has recommended that a new sewer be laid from the present main sewer at the foot of the cross road to the houses on the Southcott Road. That the outfall be extended to a settling chamber in the field below, with distributing pipes, so as to provide for intermittent surface irrigation. That a flushing tank be provided at a selected spot and that the sewers be ventilated by means of shafts.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

Braunton, Morthoe and Woolacombe have water carriage systems by means of which their sewage is carried away to the sea. In the majority of instances excrement disposal is obtained by the use of privies, many of which are, owing to neglect, allowed to remain unemptied for long periods. In several instances the privy is built so as to project over a stream, occasionally it discharges on to a manure heap. In some cases water closets are in use, many of them being hand flushed. In other places the pail system and earth closets are adopted. The duty of cleaning out and emptying the privies is imposed upon the householders, and is used as manure for the gardens.

In several instances where cottages have been inspected, the condition of the privies has been most unsatisfactory, many of the occupants neglecting to take the trouble to empty them, the result being that, especially during the summer months, they become dangerous *foci* for the spread of disease. This is a condition of affairs that is likely to remain unless some methods are taken to regularly inspect premises of this character. At present it is quite impossible for your inspectors, who can only devote a limited portion of their time to undertake the regular inspection of cottages in their various districts. The dangerous proximity of the cesspit to the dwelling is most noticeable in many villages, often these are never emptied and are the most common source of pollution of the well upon which the occupants rely for drinking purposes.

HOUSE REFUSE.

In no place in the district is there any public scavenging except at Woolacombe, where it is collected twice weekly, carried to a heap and ultimately used as manure.

As a rule house refuse is generally stored in an uncovered ashpit, where it is allowed to remain adjacent to the dwelling, often for a considerable time, and is then used as a manure for the garden.

WATER SUPPLY OF THE DISTRICT.

The water supply is derived from springs, wells and streams. In some of the villages are public pump wells, in others a separate well for each house or group of houses. Some houses have no well adjacent and the water has to be fetched 100 yards or more. Braunton and Morthoe have excellent public water supplies.

Woolacombe for many years obtained its water from a small reservoir or pond situated at the base of Challacombe Hill, to the south of the village. This is capable of holding 1,400 gallons, it has no artificial bottom, but is frequently emptied and cleaned out. There appears to be no possibility of any direct pollution taking place from the outside. It has no filter bed. During the year samples of this water were examined by an analyst and condemned as being unfit for use as a drinking and domestic supply. As a result of the report the supply from this reservoir was at once discontinued and was replaced by a supply obtained from a much larger and more recently built reservoir, having a filter bed connected with it and situated at Challacombe Hill about 100 yards above the older supply. This latter source has only been used in an emergency during a dry summer. It is capable of holding $8\frac{1}{4}$ millions gallons. Samples were obtained for analysis from this source and were forwarded for report and examination. The result of the examination being unsatisfactory arrangements are being made by the Trustees of the estate to provide a fresh supply.

The Water Supply of Instow has not yet received a satisfactory solution. This is a village containing about 105 inhabited houses and having a population of about 480, which during the summer months is increased to about 650. It receives its water entirely from private wells. These wells are dry steined and are covered with stone slabs (in a few instances concreted and cemented over) and are thus very imperfectly protected against filth soaking through the soil. Their depth varies from 9ft. to 20ft., the majority being about 16ft. deep. The water is raised by means of pumps. A large number of them are party wells, at Lane end one well has to serve six cottages and another eight. The position of the wells is in many instances dangerous, many being situated in the middle of cultivated gardens, and in back yards, positions in which pollution is always possible, others are situated in the house itself, some being found under the kitchen and pantry—one well is situated under a butcher's shop. The majority of these wells have been examined at different times by Public Analysts and with very few exceptions have been condemned as being unfit for domestic use.

A detailed report upon the drainage and water supply of Instow was made to the Council during the early part of the year.

It is only fair to add, however, that the death rate for the village and parish of Instow for the year 1903 was 9.48 per 1,000, whilst that of the whole district was 11.35 per 1,000.

It is to be hoped before many months are over that the village will have a proper water supply.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE PROVISION.

Lodging Houses.—There are none in the district.

Slaughter Houses.—These have been inspected by your officers

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—These have been inspected, apparently none of the occupiers have been supplied with a copy of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Workshops Act of 1885.

Factories and Workshops.—Report in course of preparation.

METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Immediately upon the receipt of a notification of one of the infectious diseases by the Medical Officer of Health, a printed form is forwarded by him to the Sanitary Inspector in whose district the case occurs. A large amount of information has to be filled in upon this form, such as the number of inmates, the number of rooms, the school attended, water and milk supply, the presence of any defects in drainage or nuisance adjacent to or upon the premises, &c. On the completion of the inspection, the report is forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, who in this way possesses important information as to the sanitary condition of every house where an infectious disease has been notified to him. At the completion of the illness the Inspector again visits the premises and thoroughly disinfects them.

Infected clothing and bedding can be disinfected upon applying to the Sanitary Inspector of the Barnstaple Urban District Council.

The district labours under the very great disadvantage of having no Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases. During such an epidemic as occurred at Westleigh it would have been a very great advantage to have been able to remove the infected children into an Isolation Hospital immediately evidences of the epidemic appeared. As it was we were compelled to hurriedly furnish and equip an empty cottage, which we were very fortunate to find, and into which was put a nurse in charge. All this was done in great haste and at a very great cost, and although it was the very best that could have been done under the circumstances, it would have been totally inadequate to cope with the epidemic had it spread any further. It would considerably lighten the responsibilities of both the Barnstaple Urban and Rural District Councils if they jointly built a Hospital for this purpose. At present the North Devon Infirmary admits cases of Infectious Disease into its wards which require immediate operation, and does this at a very heavy expense. It has always been found impossible to properly nurse and care for cases of this character in their own homes. A very severe case of Diphtheria was during the year admitted into the Infirmary for immediate operation from the village of Ashford.

During the year the three Sanitary Inspectors have had a larger amount of work to do in their several districts than usual. The present method of dividing the district into three parts and giving one district to each Sanitary Inspector at an annual salary of £20 per annum is open to serious criticism. Within the last two years the duties of the Sanitary Inspector have become much greater, his responsibilities are

much wider than they were before and are such that in order that he may efficiently perform his work he must give up his whole time to his duties. The present form of remuneration of the three officers is totally inadequate for the work they are called upon to perform. In one of the districts there have been over a hundred cases of scarlet fever, this throws a very considerable amount of work upon the shoulders of an officer, especially as the cases were widely scattered. During the epidemic of Diphtheria at Westleigh, the officer, although a part time officer had, nevertheless, to devote his whole time for some weeks to this work. The total remuneration for the three Sanitary Inspectors of this district is £60 per annum, and when it is remembered that the population of the district is about roughly 17,500, and that there are over 4,000 inhabited houses in an area of 132.059 acres it is quite easy to imagine how absolutely an inadequate remuneration they receive for the work that the Local Government Board requires them to do. Although, whilst your present officers have done their work exceedingly well I am strongly of opinion that a Sanitary Inspector should be in such a position as to be able to give up the whole of his time to his work. It is unwise with the larger responsibilities recently placed upon them, notably the working of the Factory and Workshop Act, the inspection of Bakehouses and Dairies, Slaughter Houses, &c., for them to continue as at present.

REPORTS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

Special Reports have been made during the year upon—

- (a) The Instow Water Supply.
- (b) Woolacombe Drainage and Water Supply.
- (c) The Outbreak of Diphtheria at Westleigh.
- (d) Water course at Bickington.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population for the year 1904 is 17,290 ; the population at the last census in 1901 being 17,692.

Birth Rate.—The total number of births registered during the year 1904 was 396, equal to a birth rate of 22·90 per 1,000. This is slightly lower than in 1903 when the birth rate was 23·12 per 1,000.

The birth rate for the rural population of England and Wales for 1904 was 26·8 per 1,000.

District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
No. 1	76	68	144
No. 2	86	56	142
No. 3	55	55	110
	<hr/> 217	<hr/> 179	<hr/> 396

Death Rate.—The total number of deaths registered in the district during 1904 was 249, equal to a death rate of 14·40. This compares unfavourably with 1903, when the number of deaths was 208 and the death rate 11·35.

The death rate for the rural population of England and Wales for 1904 was 15·3 per 1,000.

The following table gives an analysis of the deaths and ages in the different districts :—

District	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	Totals
No. 1	12	3	7	5	24	46	97
No. 2	15	4	1	4	27	38	89
No. 3	14	7	0	2	15	25	63
	41	14	8	11	66	109	249

Infant Mortality.—There were 41 deaths in children under one year of age. An analysis of the deaths appear in Table V. It will be seen that Premature Births, Convulsions, Marasmus and Bronchitis were responsible for most of the deaths.

The infant mortality per 1000 births equals 103·53, being much higher than the last three years.

The infant mortality for the rural population of England and Wales for 1904 being 125 per 1,000 births.

Deaths due to Zymotic Diseases—

				Districts.			Total.
				No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	
Smallpox	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	4	0	0	4	4
Diarrhœa	...	...	0	3	0	3	3
				4	3	1	8

Equal to a death rate of 0·46 per 1,000 for Zymotic Diseases.

DISEASE INCIDENTS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Small Pox.

No cases of this disease have been notified during the year.

Diphtheria. Number of cases notified 31. Deaths 4.

No less than 27 of the 31 cases of Diphtheria notified were from No. 1 District and occurred in and around the village of Westleigh.

The epidemic appears to have started amongst the children attending the Westleigh School. The school which had been thoroughly cleansed and white washed during the month's holiday, opened at the end of August and had only re-assembled about a week when the sickness broke out. There were 84 children attending, varying in ages from 3 to 13 years and up to September 3rd, as far as the school mistress knew, none of the children were away ill. Two children, Elsie Chipman of Weach Farm and Fred Badcock of Lower Southcott, made their last attendances on September 2nd. It was found on enquiry at their homes that both these children were ill on September 3rd, and apparently too ill to attend school. Elsie Chipman became rapidly worse and was seen on September 5th by her doctor who diagnosed Diphtheria, her brother was ordered to remain home from school, this boy kept well until the 8th when he complained of sore throat, and a few days later was found to be suffering from the same disease as his sister.

The boy Badcock does not seem to have been ill enough for medical treatment, but was suffering according to his mother from a "Quinsey," at any rate he did not return to school.

These three cases were as far as could be ascertained the first evidences of any illness occurring amongst the children of the school.

These were rapidly followed by other cases and it became necessary to provide a trained nurse to assist in the nursing. A small empty cottage was placed at our disposal by Mr. Berry Torr and was converted into a temporary Hospital.

A detailed report upon the epidemic and upon some of the cottages has already been placed before the Council.

As far as possible the infected cottages were cleansed and disinfected, a strict inspection of the village was made with the result that important alterations in the drainage and water supply were suggested. Cesspits were cleaned out and the cottages ordered to be put into good sanitary condition.

Scarlet Fever. Number of cases notified 144. Deaths 1.

This disease has been unusually present during the year, being confined almost entirely to the No. 2 and 3 Districts. No. 3 having no less than 110 cases, the majority of which occurred in the parishes of Combmartin and Berrynarbor. There was only one death which occurred in the No. 3 District.

The disease upon the whole was of a very mild character.

The schools at Combmartin and Berrynarbor were closed.

Enteric Fever.

Only one case was notified. This occurred in the No. 2 District.

Erysipelas. 10 cases notified. No deaths.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Measles.

There were no deaths from this disease; which was only slightly prevalent.

Whooping Cough. No deaths.

Phthisis.

There were 26 deaths from Phthisis, being in excess of former years. More than half the cases occurred in the No. 1 District. In Tables VI., VII. and VIII. will be found an analysis of all the deaths from Cancer and Phthisis in each of the Districts.

Any application for the disinfection of premises recently occupied by a consumptive should be made to the Sanitary Inspector of the District or Medical Officer of Health.

Cancer.

There were 12 deaths from Cancer, last year there were 26 deaths.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

This has, as usual, been supplied by the courtesy of Thos. Wainwright, Esq.

JOHN R. HARPER, M.O.H.

TABLE I.

Table showing Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District.			
		No.	Rate	Under 1 year		At all Ages					No.	Rate	No.	Rate
				No.	Rate per 1000 Births regist'rd	No.	Rate							
1894	18905	485	25·6	59	121·8	312	16·45	0	0	10	322	17·0		
1895	18861	487	25·82	53	108·8	306	16·22	0	0	7	313	16·65		
1896	18817	515	27·36	60	116·5	276	14·6	0	0	16	292	15·51		
1897	18773	461	24·55	45	87·6	272	14·7	0	0	14	286	15·23		
1898	18729	488	26·0	37	75·8	247	13·2	0	0	4	251	13·4		
1899	18685	481	26·8	57	118·5	275	14·66	0	0	8	283	15·13		
1900	18641	441	23·65	46	104·3	256	13·73	0	0	7	263	14·1		
1901	17692	389	22·04	31	79·56	220	12·43	0	0	12	232	13·11		
1902	17558	424	24·14	31	75·11	214	12·16	0	0	17	231	13·16		
1903	17424	403	23·12	36	89·35	208	11·35	0	0	15	223	12·79		
Averages for years 1894-1903	18408	457	24·90	45·5	97·84	258	14·85	0	0	11	269	14·60		
1904	17290	396	22·90	41	103·53	249	14·40	0	0	12	261	15·08		

Total population at all ages at last Census 17692

Number of Inhabited Houses ,, 4077

Average number of persons per house ,, 4·44

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered

by water) 132059

TABLE II

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years in Rural Districts of the Barnstable Union.

Names of Localities.	Whole District.					No. 1 District.				No. 2 District.				No. 3 District.			
	YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1894	18905	485	322	59	6788	161	126	14	6707	173	105	25	5410	151	81	20
1895	18861	487	313	53	6767	165	99	17	6692	185	110	21	5402	139	97	15
1896	18817	515	292	60	6747	166	106	18	6676	197	99	22	5394	152	71	20
1897	18773	461	286	45	6727	152	109	17	6660	151	85	11	5387	158	78	17
1898	18729	488	257	37	6707	173	82	13	6664	171	96	9	5378	144	69	15
1899	18685	481	283	57	6687	139	90	19	6628	182	87	17	5370	100	98	21
1900	18641	441	263	46	6661	163	97	21	6612	144	81	16	5362	134	78	8
1901	17692	389	232	31	6198	139	58	6	6142	139	83	15	5352	111	91	10
1902	17558	424	214	31	6135	157	74	13	6082	140	94	12	5344	127	46	6
1903	17424	403	208	36	6066	124	69	4	6022	156	70	17	5336	123	69	15
Averages of Years { 1894 to 1903 ... }		18408	457	258	45	6548	153	91	14	6486	163	91	16	5373	123	77	14
1904	17290	396	249	41	6000	144	97	12	5962	142	89	15	5328	110	63	14

TABLE III

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1904.

Notifiable Disease	Cases notified in whole District.							Total cases notified in each District		
	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and above	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
Small-pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	31	0	7	21	1	2	0	27	4	0
Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	10	0	0	0	1	9	0	5	2	3
Scarlet Fever ...	144	2	31	89	13	8	1	3	31	110
Typhus Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever ...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Relapsing Fever...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued Fever...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	1	0
Plague ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	189	2	38	110	17	21	1	37	39	113

TABLE IV

Table showing the Causes of, and Ages, at Death during the Year 1904.

Causes of Death	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all ages.		
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up-wards	No. 1 District	No. 2 District	No. 3 District
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	4	0	1	2	1	0	0	4	0	0
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever { Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic Influenza	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhœa	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Enteritis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Septic Diseases	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	26	1	0	2	6	12	5	14	8	4
Other Tubercular Diseases	4	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	2	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	12	0	0	0	0	4	8	4	6	2
Bronchitis	23	5	4	0	0	4	10	8	7	8
Pneumonia	8	3	1	0	0	1	3	2	3	3
Pleurisy	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs... ..	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Venereal Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature Birth	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Heart Diseases	39	1	0	1	0	16	21	13	17	9
Accidents	14	1	0	1	2	9	1	5	8	1
Suicides	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
All other causes	97	17	6	1	2	16	55	41	29	27
All Causes	249	41	14	8	11	66	109	97	89	63

TABLE V

Table showing Causes of Death of Children under 1 year of age
in the whole District.

	Number of Deaths.
Bronchitis.....	5
Pneumonia	3
Convulsions	7
Premature Births.....	7
Marasmus ...	9
Gastro-enteritis.....	4
Influenza	1
Congenital Heart Disease	1
Laryngismus Stridulus	1
Phthisis	1
Meningocele ...	1
Accident	1
<hr/>	
Total	41

The Infant Mortality for the District being 103 per 1000 births.

The Infant Mortality in the Rural Population of England and
Wales being 125 per 1000 births.

TABLE VI

Table showing the deaths from Cancer and Phthisis, Births, Deaths and Notifications of Infectious Diseases in each village of the No. 1 District for the year 1904.

Names of Localities.	Population at 1901 Census	Births	Deaths	DEATHS FROM			INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED					
				Cancer	Phthisis	Other tubercular diseases	Scarlatina	Diph-theria	Erysipelas	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Small-pox
Atherington	453	12	8	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Bishop's Tawton	780	14	7	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fremington.....	1182	38	25	0	4	1	0	0	2	0	2	0
Horwood	102	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Instow	684	12	7	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Landkey	621	17	8	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Newton Tracey	127	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swinbridge.....	1106	18	23	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tawstock.....	792	17	3	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Westleigh	401	11	13	2	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0
Totals	6198	144	97	4	14	1	3	27	5	0	2	0

TABLE VII

Table showing the deaths from Cancer and Phthisis, Births, Deaths and Notifications of Infectious Diseases in each village of the No 2 District for the year 1901.

Names of Localities.	Population at 1901 Census	Births	Deaths	DEATHS FROM				INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED					
				Cancer	Phthisis	Other tubercular Diseases	Scarlatina	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Small-pox	
Ashford	148	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Bittadon	54	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Braunton.....	2133	59	37	3	3	0	18	3	0	1	0	1	0
Georgeham	698	25	12	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goodleigh	253	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heanton Punchardon	404	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marwood	681	18	13	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Morthoe	780	10	6	0	0	1	8	1	0	0	0	0	0
Pilton West	100	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shirwell	338	9	5	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Down.....	553	9	10	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	6142	142	89	6	8	2	31	4	2	1	1	0	0

TABLE VIII

Table showing the deaths from Cancer and Phthisis, Births, Deaths and Notifications of Infectious Diseases in each village of the No. 3 District for the year 1904.

Names of Localities.	Population at 1901 Census.	Births.	Deaths.	DEATHS FROM			INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.						
				Cancer.	Phthisis.	Other tubercular Diseases.	Scarlatina	Diph- theria.	Erysipelas	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Small-pox	
Arlington	217	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berrynarbor	589	13	11	0	1	0	14	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bratton Fleming.....	511	5	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Brendon ..	262	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Challacombe.....	195	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Combmartin ..	1521	43	22	1	1	1	71	0	1	0	0	0	0
Countisbury...	268	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Down.....	326	10	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
High Bray.....	208	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kentisbury...	304	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loxhore.....	220	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martinhoe.....	174	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parriacombe.....	315	4	3	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stoke Rivers ..	174	6	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trentishoe	68	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	5352	110	63	2	4	1	110	0	3	0	0	0	0

TABLE IX

Rainfall and Temperature in North Devon, for the year 1903.

STATION.	Height in feet.	RAINFALL.				TEMPERATURE.			
		Total fall in inches.	No. of days on which rain fell.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		Max.	Date.	Min.	Date.
				Inches.	Date.				
Lynmouth (Rock House), T. H. Mead Briggs.....	20	39·07	209	1·00	March 4th	79 degs.	Jly 10, 18 & Ag 3	22 degs.	Feb. 28th
Barnstaple (North Devon Athenæum), T. Wainwright.....	25	35·21	215	1·20	July 26th	85·6 degs.	July 10th	20 degs.	Nov. 27th
Ilfracombe, M. W. Tattam.....	35	37·02	198	1·01	Sept. 30th	80·8 degs.	July 18th	28 degs.	Jan. 1st
Woolacombe, R. N. Kivell.....	60	28·26	201	0·71	July 22nd	83·6 degs.	July 10th	25·4 degs.	Jan. 1st
Westward Ho! (Ferndale), J. W. North.....	60	29·84	198	0·88	July 19th				
Northam (St. Helens), Miss Bowles.....	67	31·40	200	0·80	May 1st				
Santon (Preston House), Miss Durham	75	31·26	165	0·83	July 22nd				
Pilton (Broadgade House), Miss Hibbert.....	83	35·66	212	1·27	July 27th				
Abbotsham, Mrs. C. Hibbert.....	87	36·85	221	1·06	July 19th	85 degs.	July 10th	22·5 degs.	Nov. 27th
Instow, Miss Lock.....	100	30·72	178	0·74	July 22nd				
Newport (King's Close), A. Bullock-Webster.....	138	40·18	170	1·00	July 26th				
Northam, Rev. Preb. Dimond-Churchward	173	35·54	183			83 degs.	July 10th	24 degs.	Feb. 28th
Hartland Abbey, G. Sleep.....	222	38·64	181	1·13	July 22nd				
Horwood, Rev. John Dene.....	288	32·44	211	0·70	July 26th	83 degs.	July 11th	19 degs.	Nov. 26th
Lynmouth (Gwynallt), A. L. Ford.....	300	41·47	198	1·07	Feb. 12th				
Filleigh (Castle Hill Gardens), W. H. Pearson.....	317	45·37	228	2·14	July 26th	84 degs.	July 10th	16 degs.	Nov. 27th
Alverdiscott, F. A. Trevan.....	330	38·99	209	0·87	Aug. 11th	88 degs.	July 10th	18 degs.	Nov. 27th
Gammaton, H. West.....	335	39·10	206	0·84	July 22nd				
Torrington (Enfield), G. M. Doe.....	336	38·09	217	0·79	Nov. 10th	81 degs.	July 10th	19 degs.	Nov. 23rd
Filleigh (School House), W. H. Reeve.....	368	42·96	235	1·74	July 26th	83·6 degs.	July 10th	14·4 degs.	Nov. 27th
Ilfracombe (Reservoir), O. M. Prouse.....	377	45·06	225	1·47	Sept. 30th				
St. Giles (Stevenstone), W. Gillies.....	420	40·45	213	0·81	Nov. 10th	84 degs.	July 10th	19 degs.	Nov. 23 & 26
Chittlehamholt, Rev. H. L. Pigot.....	500	39·98							
Southmolton, F. Day.....	510	43·54	204	1·22	July 25th				
Romansleigh, Rev. J. H. Thompson.....	590	38·21	228	2·10	July 26th	79 degs.	July 18th	24 degs.	Mar 2 & Nov 26
Arlington Court, Lady Chichester	612	51·21	231	1·18	Sept. 30th	82 degs.	July 10th	23 degs.	Nov. 23 & 26
Stoke Rivers, Rev. H. G. Alexander.....	767	50·38	197	0·99	Nov. 8th				
Parracombe, Rev. J. F. Chanter	795	49·98	196	1·14	Aug. 3rd				
Martinhoe, Rev. R. W. Oldham.....	808	44·55	206	1·00	Nov. 6th				
Challacombe, Ilfracombe U.D. Council (per A. Leworthy)	925	64·52	224	1·51	Oct. 16th				

